

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Applicants thank the Examiner for total consideration given the present application. Claims 1-9 were pending prior to the Office Action. No claims have been added and no claims have been canceled through this reply. Therefore, claims 1-9 are pending. Claim 1 is independent. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the remarks presented herein, and earnestly seeks a timely allowance of all pending claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate that claims 1-9 are indicated to be allowable.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, asserting that they are indefinite for the features of “a flat, elongate horizontal cross section” and “extends...in a direction in which the steam suction portion crosses an axis line of the pot, and that occupies a space having a flat vertical cross-sectional shape.”.

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 (along with dependent claims) merely to further clarify the invention. Independent claim 1 has been amended and now recites “a barrel shape pot, said barrel shape pot is flattened in a lateral direction; a heater arranged in a bottom part of the barrel shape pot; and a steam suction device that extends horizontally, above the barrel shape pot such that the steam suction device extends in a horizontal direction perpendicular to a vertical center axis line of said barrel shape pot, and transects said barrel shape pot in the lateral direction.” Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments provide the necessary structural context of the barrel shape pot and also the relationship of the steam suction device to the barrel shape pot.

Thus, based on these amendments, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejection be withdrawn and claims 1-9 be allowed.

Request for Personal Interview

Should the Examiner have any concerns regarding the claim amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' representative to schedule and conduct an interview to discuss these concerns.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks and amendments, it is believed that the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that the pending application be allowed.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Aslan Ettehadieh Reg. No. 62,278 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 3rd, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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